

## Business Notices.

## IMPORTANT FACTS.

Constant writing for six months is done cheaper with Gold Pens than with Steel Pens; therefore, it is economy to use Gold Pens.

The Gold Pen remains unchanged by years of continued use, while the Steel Pen is ever changing by corrosion and wear; therefore, perfect uniformity of writing is obtained only by the use of the Gold Pen.

The Gold Pen is always ready and reliable, while the Steel Pen must be often corrected and a new one selected; therefore there is great saving of time in the use of the Gold Pen. Gold is capable of receiving any degree of elasticity, so that the Gold Pen is exactly adapted to the hand of the writer; therefore, the nerves of the hand and arm are not injured, as is known to be the case by the use of Steel Pens.

See "The Pen is mightier than the Sword," is another column.

WINTER CLOTHING—The cheapest, the best assortment, newest stock, best styles, at No. 75, Broadway.

## AT HALF PRICE.

COATS, OVERCOATS, FATS, and VESTS. From the stock of three broken wholesale houses.

At Evans', and Fulton-st., bet. Gold and Cliff.

24 CARD PHOTOGRAPHS for \$1. PARSON PORTRETS, superior style, \$1. ALBION PORTRETS, one dozen, \$2. ANTIQUITY, with 100 cards, 50 cents.

AT HOLMES'S PARK GALLERY, No. 234 Broadway.

ARMY WOOLEN MITTENS. Patterns and directions for making ARMY WOOLEN MITTENS from HANKS'S OF COTTON furnished free on application at office of WILLIAM C. HARRIS, Sewing-Machine, No. 50 Broadway.

JEFFERS, No. 573 Broadway. Is the only place in New-York where the best of goods can be had for \$2, that will give perfect satisfaction.

GAS FIXTURES, &c. STEPHEN PHILBIN, No. 707 Broadway. Offers for sale, at reduced prices, A SPLENDID ASSORTMENT OF GAS-FIXTURES, FRENCH BRONZES (Direct Importation), Consisting of MANTEL ORNAMENTS, STATUETTES, GROUPS, INCENSE-BURNERS, &c.

PEWEE, AND GAITHER. 210 N. 3rd St., and No. 2 Astor House, BALTIMORE.

GENTLEMEN'S SCARF PINS, 50 cents, \$1, \$2, and \$3 each. No. 415 Broadway, one door below Canal-st.

ONE TO SIX Boxes of "WITCHAMSTER'S SCORPION PILL" will permanently cure any case of Sexual Weakness, or its resulting Impotency, however aggravated. I have used your "SCORPION PILL" in many cases of Seminal Weakness, and with the most perfect success. It is a most powerful medicine, and has cured very severe cases with from six to ten doses. B. K. Smith, M. D., ex-Regent of Med. Soc. of N. Y.

The SCORPION PILL is not a House-keeping remedy, nor does it contain Mercury, Iron, Cathartics, or any injurious ingredients. PRICE: \$1 per box, 50 cents for 50. Sent by mail, safe, reliable and ready, by J. W. WITCHAMSTER, No. 38 John-st., N. Y.

FANCY BOXES FOR HOLIDAY PRESENTS, of the latest invention, in unequalled variety, at WAR PRICES, and fitted to order with fine FINE CANDIES, at SHAW'S GROCERY CONFECTIONERY, No. 623 Broadway.

New-York Daily Tribune

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1861.

The first day's proceedings in the case of Col. Kerrigan will be found reported in full in our columns this morning. The proceedings yesterday were not important.

It is said that the President refuses to communicate to Congress the papers he has received from the Governments of England, France, and Spain, relative to the joint intervention of those countries in the affairs of Mexico.

An adjourned meeting of the Republican Caucus was held last evening at Washington. The debate was on Mr. Bingham's resolution for confiscation, and the tone of the discussion was such as to indicate that the House will strike straight at the root of the rebellion. The resolution was unanimously adopted.

A lively debate occurred in the House of Representatives, yesterday, upon the resolution requesting the President to cause Gen. Halleck to modify his proclamation concerning slaves. Between Mr. Lovejoy against, and Mr. Blair in favor of the action of Gen. Halleck, a warm discussion ensued, after which the matter was laid on the table.

The death of Senator Baker was yesterday announced to both Houses of Congress, when eloquent and fitting eulogies were spoken. The President was in the Senate during the proceedings in that body, and sat by the side of the Vice-President. The Senate eulogies were delivered by Messrs. Cowan, Dixon, Sumner, Nesmith, and Latham; those in the House by Messrs. Shiel, Phelps, Sargent, Dunlap, Colfax, Richardson, Kelly, and Riddle. Part of those eulogies will be found in our regular Congressional report, and others on another page.

It having been alleged that Col. Keller of the Baker Rifles had been dishonorably discharged from a regiment of the Sickles Brigade, it is but justice to state that this allegation is untrue. Col. Keller voluntarily resigned from the 1st Regiment of that brigade in July last, before the regiment left its former camp on Staten Island. Col. Keller's good character as a man and a soldier is proved to us by the attestation of many of the most respectable citizens of New-York.

The Board of Canvassers yesterday completed the canvass of the 11d and XVth Aldermanic Districts, comprising the bulk of the IVth and Vth Wards, and the XIIIth Ward entire. The net loss to Mr. Opdyke on these two Districts was six votes, leaving his majority throughout the city 604, taking our figures for the two Aldermanic Districts which yet remain to be counted. The canvass might have been completed yesterday but for the absence of Messrs. Brady and Platt, the representatives of the uncanvassed districts. They will doubtless be present to-day. If these districts can be canvassed to-day, there is nothing to prevent the close of the canvass and the official declaration to-morrow.

The "Onward to Richmond" cry, this time, seems to come from an unexpected quarter. We have information that may be relied on, to the effect that men of high rank in the army, whose opinions are hardly to be disregarded, are urging an advance movement before the Virginia roads shall become impassable. A

plan has been proposed in the War office, to the President and some members of the Cabinet, which, at least, commands attention. Whether it will be permitted to be put into operation is yet a question, as it had not, a day or two ago, though freely talked of elsewhere, been presented to Gen. McClellan.

—Let it be distinctly understood by everybody that THE TRIBUNE neither asks nor advocates a movement of the army of the Potomac. The issuing of orders on that subject we leave entirely to Gen. McClellan.

The report of the Solicitor of the Treasury, Edward Jordan, esq., shows that the whole number of suits brought by United States Attorneys, and conducted by the Solicitor, was, for the year, 529. They were brought to recover \$444,279 16. Of this number of suits, 202 have been tried and disposed of during the year; 112 in favor of the United States, 23 against the United States, and 67 settled and discontinued without trial. In addition, 122 old cases on the docket of the office have been disposed of. The amount collected on these suits during the present year is \$343,346 46. Previous to his acceptance of the appointment of Solicitor of the Treasury, Mr. Jordan was well known in Ohio as one of the leading lawyers of that State. His ability and promptitude have contributed largely to the efficiency with which the affairs of the Treasury Department have been conducted.

## THE LATEST WAR NEWS.

It is said in Washington that the enemy outnumbered us on the Potomac, but the grounds on which this opinion is based are not given, except that 75,000 fresh troops are believed to have come up recently from the South. On Tuesday night the troops composing the center of our army slept on their arms, having received a dispatch from Gen. McClellan to the effect that an attack was expected.

Some who are well fitted to form an opinion on the point, express their belief that the Union Army on the Potomac is about to go into Winter quarters, as extensive preparations are making to build huts.

From Kentucky we learn that Capt. Nevitt and 40 men a few days ago burned the bridges at Whipperwill, five miles from Russellville, on the Memphis branch railroad. They attacked the rebel guard, killed two, and took eleven prisoners.

There has been a fight or skirmish in Missouri, near Waverly, Lafayette County. Joe Shelby, a notorious rebel, at the head of a ruffian band on one side, and a body of Union cavalry on the other. The fight began on the 10th and was renewed on the 11th. No further details are given.

On another page will be found a letter of especial interest from our special correspondent at Nashville concerning the uprising of the Union men in East Tennessee, and their great need of the aid they did not receive from the Government. The letter also gives painful details of the persecution to which the Union men of that State are exposed, being hunted like the Scottish Covenanters of old. The number and organization of the Union forces are set down, and a spirited sketch of the manner of warfare in that region adds life to the narrative.

A correspondent from Camp Hamilton, Fort Monroe, informs us of the sentences passed by a Court-Martial recently held there. Among others are those of two officers and two privates of the Massachusetts 16th Regiment. The officers are cashiered. The privates, whose offense was sleeping on their posts, are sentenced to be shot; their names are Dillon and Flaherty, or Flarity. The latter is Irish, very ignorant, being unable to read or write, and had been on guard two nights in succession. He had, moreover, taken medicine in the morning of the day on which his offense was committed. The former is a young man, of unblemished character hitherto.

We publish this morning the instructions of Secretary Chase to the resident agents in Southern ports, touching their duties with reference to gathering and shipping the crops of cotton, corn, rice, &c.

We have again a report about the pirate Sumter. That craft was at Martinique on the 24th ult., and the United States gun-boat Iroquois was in pursuit of her; but she escaped, as she has so many times before.

## FROM PORT ROYAL.

We print this morning a long and most interesting letter from our correspondent at Port Royal. He gives a clear account of the position of affairs there, and of the work now doing, or by this time already done. We have now, for the first time, a copy of the dispatch which informed the Rebels of the approach of our expedition. It was from their Assistant Adjutant-General, and was based on information from Benjamin, late Senator, now Rebel Secretary of War, whose telegram it inclosed. A full and entertaining account of the flag of truce party which went out to carry Gen. Sherman's proclamation follows. On Monday, Dec. 3, a severe storm visited Port Royal and the men were put to much personal inconvenience, beside being made to do heavy work in saving the stores which were in an exposed condition. The labor of the Quartermaster's Department seems to have been unusually severe, and, moreover, to have been very well performed.

The most important information contained in the letter is concerning the probable occupation of Beaufort. An expedition set out for that place on Friday, Dec. 6, the latest date, and undoubtedly very soon succeeded in accomplishing its work. On Wednesday night the rebels made a simultaneous movement in that vicinity to destroy the crops of cotton and corn. It seems as if they had early intelligence of the expedition to Beaufort, and as if they were determined to injure us as much as possible. It is thought that a million dollars' worth of property was thus lost in a single night. Some fears were felt, also, lest Beaufort should be burned before our troops could reach it. It is known that the rebels have been waiting about to remove as many of their valuables as they could get away, and that they have crept in whenever an opportunity offered, and carried off

their stuff; there was little doubt that they intended to burn the town afterward.

This movement toward Beaufort, and one which was to be made toward the full occupation of Tybee Island on the same morning, so diminished the forces at Port Royal that the great expedition was delayed, to await the arrival of reinforcements. Meanwhile, the fortifications of Hilton Head were going on with spirit, and when completed a few men could easily hold the position. The works at Braddock's Point, another extremity of the island, are also prosecuted with vigor, and the negroes give efficient aid in this labor. They seem not only happy but exuberant in their joy at the sudden change in their prospects and condition. Our next news from Port Royal will be undoubtedly of a stirring character.

## THE WAR—ITS IDEAS.

One of our conservative—that is, Slavery-conserving—journals intimates that our loyal people and armies are far less in earnest than the rebels, and that we lose battles, incur minor reverses, and fail to make progress in consequence. Manassas, we are told, was a disaster and a disgrace because of this disparity in earnestness of purpose, which the recent Messages of President Lincoln and Jeff. Davis respectively are instances as illustrating. The President is calm, logical, persuasive, conciliatory; while Jeff. is vindictive, venomous, ferocious, and damnable. The moral deduced from these premises is, that we must get rid of some of our superfluous sentimental philanthropy and go at the Secessionists as though we were killing rattlesnakes.

We think this statement does injustice to the valor and efficiency of our soldiers. We would not disparage the valor evinced by the rebels—they have quite often fought well; but we know no rebel achievement in the contest thus far that can begin to compare with Zagozy's rout at Springfield of two thousand rebels by that much decried "Fremont Body-Guard," that certainly numbered less than two hundred. There was no surprise in the premises; the rebels chose their own ground and must have been aware of their great numerical superiority; yet they were scattered like chaff, and did not venture to show their faces afterward. Point us to a single feat of the rebels that will compare with this in gallantry, and we will admit that the invidious comparison we are combating has some show of justice.

But consider the battles fought by Lyon and Sigel near Carthage and Springfield respectively, against not less than three times their numbers. The rebels were raw soldiers; but so were ours; they chose their ground; they knew their superiority; yet they did not triumph. Never once have the traitor levies even attempted to stand in the open field against such odds as our men confronted in those well-contested battles—and confronted with qualified success.

As to Manassas, the day was fairly won by our soldiers, only to be thrown away by bad generalship. The rebels were beaten; they had suffered immensely more than the Unionists; they were giving way on every point, when Col. Elzey arrived with the last brigade of Johnston's forces. Had our reserves been then sent to the front, while the regiments that had borne the heat and burden of the day were reformed and refreshed behind them, the rebellion would have been crushed on that field. As it was, not half our men who were within reach of that battle-field were for one moment under fire. We had soldiers enough at hand who never fired a shot on that shameful day to have walked right over Manassas without once halting. But valor and strength are alike fruitless in the absence of leadership.

But we are willing to take our stand on Ball's Bluff, disastrous as was that encounter, to prove the decided superiority of our rank and file to the rebels. Here were less than two thousand men, penned in a small open field, assailed on three sides by a superior and constantly increasing force of rebels who were sheltered by dense forests, and fired at our men as if they were targets, while themselves screened by trees and foliage. A deep, rapid and rising river lay in our rear; the means of crossing it, inadequate and ineffective at best, had been destroyed; blunder after blunder had pushed our men into a trap where they could at best but die. We do not undervalue the Confederates when we assert that they have no three regiments in their service who could have fought as steadily and maneuvered as firmly as did our heroes on that fatal field, though three-fourths of them had never before been under fire.

Compare with this the fight at the taking of the rebel batteries guarding the entrance to Port Royal. There our Union forces were for once well handled, and felt that they were not offering up their lives a sacrifice to official stupidity. Probably less than a third of them had ever before had cannon balls whistling about their ears or crashing through their bulwarks. Where was ever displayed more admirable courage and efficiency? What navy on earth could, with no greater weight of metal in its broadside, have silenced those forts in shorter time or at less cost? The rebels, too, fought gallantly for a time; we presume they did all they were able or knew how to do; but, when they did break, what time they made! There was no running at Manassas to compare with it; for our racers were but a fraction of our army, while every rebel at Port Royal made time that the American Deer may well envy. And they were thoroughly demoralized. One-third of Gen. Sherman's land force might have taken either Charleston or Savannah next day without encountering serious opposition. But three men can win a battle where one knows how to make the best use of it.

We presume the higher officers of the rebel armies are more in earnest than a majority of ours. Their all is at stake, and they fight accordingly. But a very large portion of the rank and file would rather to-day be fighting for the Union than against it. They have no real interest in the success of the rebellion—in fact, its triumph would be their misfortune and degradation. An insurrection against Free Schools, Popular Suffrage, and the right of the

laborer to be paid for his work, cannot be heartily supported by intelligent poor men who earn their bread by honest industry.

If there be indeed any portion of the armed defenders of the Union who do not find in the National cause an adequate stimulus to resolution and self-devotion, it must be that they have not fully grasped the great ideas which underlie and dignify the War for the Union. Those ideas substantially involve and affirm—

1. The Right of the Nation to Be.
2. The validity of a fair Election, and the moral obligation resting on the defeated therein to respect the decision and choice of a constitutional majority.
3. Free Discussion, Free Schools, Free Labor—in short, HUMAN LIBERTY.

—If there be those who do not find in these issues adequate motive for valiant and daring efforts in behalf of the Union, what cause for which patriots ever fought and fell would arouse their enthusiasm and nerve them to heroic exertions?

## AN APT QUOTATION.

The Herald of yesterday says that the editor of The Times "is usually very fond of quoting 'from The London Saturday Review.' Will he 'quote from the number of that periodical' dated November 23? We fancy that he 'will fight shy of it, for certain reasons.' Whether The Times considers it a sufficient reason for refraining to quote from a certain journal that it attempts to convict it of error we do not know. But we have no such motive to restrain us, and shall therefore quote from this very number of The Saturday Review of which The Herald thinks The Times is afraid. It says:

"The unfavorable judgment which many people in this country have undoubtedly formed of the general tone and character of public opinion in the United States, is not exclusively, at least, not solely, derived from the columns of The N. Y. Herald, and other publications of a like nature. That is, it is also, and in some sense is a fairer, to represent the cultivated mind and intelligence of the citizens of New-York. It is addressed to the vulgar hand of vulgar politicians, and is not a fair representation of the public mind of New-York. It is a recognized medium for the circulation of party sectarian intrigues and false reports. We are not prepared to say how far this statement is well founded. There is no doubt that such a newspaper will at any rate justify us in supposing that its spirit does not differ from a large, if not influential, section of society."

The Herald has not the slightest objection to The Review, or any other journal, saying this of it. No other creature, endowed with the power of speech, could ever have submitted to so many indignities as have been bestowed upon the editor of that paper, and live; nothing in human shape alive—except, possibly, here and there the "nigger" of some uncommonly inhuman master—has writhed so often as he under the horrowish and cowardly. He can take no shame to himself, therefore, that he should be thus condemned by an English journal. No doubt he rather rejoices and chuckles over the disgrace which, through him, rests upon the American name.

But we ask "a large, if not influential, section of society," on which The Herald lives and fattens, to consider this paragraph from The Review. "The extensive sale of such a newspaper" is considered as a sufficient justification for the belief that that obscene sheet truly represents us. There was a time when no man who valued his reputation would be seen with such a paper in his hand; but a prurient desire to read its bold and base attacks upon private character, and its rehearsal of the worst vices of a corrupt society, first led to its being tolerated in counting-rooms and shops, while the men who bought it would have no more carried it home to their wives and daughters than they would have put into their hands the obscene books, with highly-colored illustrations, to be bought in some quarters of the town. But familiarity breeds indifference, and the paper soon found its way from the place of business to the parlor, and the women of the family found its unclean columns quite as much to their taste as it had earlier proved to be to that of their once judicious fathers and husbands who were unwilling to expose them to its corrupting influence. There is probably no one instrumentality in this country that has done so much to blunt the fine edge of a cultivated taste, to deaden the keen sense of modesty, to lower the moral tone of the people, to make vice more familiar and less hideous, as The New-York Herald. It has profaned sacred things; has outraged and made vulgar all things precious; has made truth seem a joke, honor a sham, and any sense of the dignity of virtue and manliness a thing not to cherish and to reverence, but to be ashamed of. For fifteen years this paper—which in its essential character has never changed from the beginning—has been admitted to the houses of people of respectable position. And the result of its subtle influence, unconscious to its victims, is marked in dishonored women and debauched and degraded men. A sheet that no brother and no druggist can do without for a single day, which just reaches the level of their intellectual and aesthetic standard—how can it go into the parlors and the offices of the more respectable, and not leave behind it the stench of its pollution? How can an English paper come to any other conclusion than that "the extensive sale of such a newspaper will at any rate justify us in supposing that its spirit finds favor with a large, if not influential, section of society." The old proverb if not elegant is forcible: "If you lie down with dogs, you must get up with fleas."

## HERE AND THERE.

From The Express of Yesterday. Every army officer has a right to throw up his commission. And if he does, he makes a mistake. The only of creating new regiments of soldiers to march side by side with Americans, Irishmen, and Germans, the last as proposed, there is scarcely a General in the army who will stand it—not even Gen. Banks, we suspect. Bayonet, then, think! But, if the Senators make the test, from all we can hear, the President of the United States will evermore them, and recommission such officers as stand up for their color, their race, their broadness as the superior race of the negro.

From The Herald of Yesterday. (Washington Correspondence—Report of a Despatch.) There are two regiments of colored men at Centerville, under the command of Jordan, an old colored veteran of 1812, having been a drummer-boy under Gen. Jackson. One of these numbers 1,100, and the other 1,600. Two other colored regiments were sent to Missouri since the last battle there. These regiments are composed of both free and slave. They are not allowed to picket duty, but are drilled and equipped separately from the white men. Their officers are all colored.

—So it seems that the Confederate rebels not

only have negro regiments, composed in part of slaves, in their main army, but negro Captains, Majors, and Colonels! Yet The Express asserts that if Blacks are allowed to fight for the Union, as they do for Disunion, our White officers will all resign! We cannot think so meanly of their patriotism.

## THE SUPREME COURT.

Among the many reforms which the present session of Congress will doubtless institute, that of a thorough reorganization of the various Federal Courts is one of the most urgent. To the Supreme, Circuit, and District Courts of the United States are committed some of the most important branches of litigation, involving the property and the rights of large classes of the community. All suits of an Admiralty and Maritime nature, all which spring from an enforcement of the revenue laws, all arising under copy-rights and letters patent for inventions, with many others affecting vast interests on the sea and on the land, are heard at the bar of these tribunals. They take cognizance also of a large circle of crimes, defined and regulated by Federal statutes. But, graver topics than these are molded by the plastic hand of our National Judiciary. Constitutional questions, which determine the destiny and involve the fate of the Republic, are subject to its decrees. The present rebellion, which fills every corner of the land with bloody strife, and makes even the solid tremble, is due quite as much to an unsound and unwise decision of the Supreme Court as to any other single cause. As at present constituted and organized, the Federal Judiciary is not only inadequate to the discharge of its ordinary duties, but is, and long has been, grossly and offensively sectional in its character. The interests and convenience of suitors at its bar, and the safety and stability of free institutions, demand that this department of the Government should be thoroughly renovated, remodeled, and reformed. Even if there were no rebellion in the country, and the old order of things were restored, the number of Supreme Judges in the Northern States would not be more than half enough to transact the business of the Courts, while at the South there would be twice as many as were necessary for this purpose. The present is a favorable opportunity to restore a just equilibrium between the sections, and, at the same time, bring back public confidence to the Court by placing men upon its bench who believe that one of the original objects of the Constitution was "to secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity." Of the five recent Southern Judges, three remain—Taney, Wayne, and Catron. They are abundantly able to perform all the business which, even in the most prosperous times, has ever been transacted in the Circuit Courts of the Slaveholding States. Of the four recent Northern Judges, three remain—Nelson, Clifford, and Grier. Five more are needed for Circuit duty in the Free States. Another Judge is needed in New-England; one would find ample employment in this city and its environs alone; two are wanted in the large Circuit made vacant by the death of Judge McLean, and one may wisely be stationed on the Pacific coast. These additions to the bench would, of course, render necessary a new organization of the Circuits—a measure of the last importance. If eleven were deemed too large a number of Judges to hold the Court in hand, it would be easy to designate a smaller quota for that duty.

But, waiving all minor matters of mere detail and arrangement, our sole object now is to impress upon Congress the transcendent importance of embracing this opportunity to thoroughly reform our Federal Judiciary.

The Herald still labors zealously in the service of Jeff. Davis. Yesterday it published the following: "If the Southern Abolition leaders do not speedily find in their hands they may find in General McClellan such a Tartar as the Long Parliament found in Cromwell, and the Council of Five Hundred found in Napoleon Bonaparte. Nor will the fear of foreign interference have much weight with a brave and prudent general at the head of an army of 600,000 men, whose numbers can rapidly be swelled to a million."

Of course this is all nonsense, but it tends to cause dissension and alarm, and that is what The Herald desires. Gen. McClellan may resign his commission, as we believe he has repeatedly proposed to do since he has been at Washington, but he will never entertain the idea of using the army for the destruction of the Government he has sworn to defend. But by suggesting the suspicion the object of The Herald is accomplished.

## New-York Central Railroad.

ALBANY, Wednesday, Dec. 11, 1861. The annual meeting of the stockholders of the New-York Central Railroad was held here to-day. The following Directors were chosen by a unanimous vote: Erasmus Corning, Albany; Dean Richmond, Buffalo; John H. Chedell, Auburn; Alonzo C. Paige, Schenectady; John V. L. Pruyn, Albany; Nathaniel Bridge, Boston; Livingston Spraker, Palatine Bridge; Jacob Gould, Rochester; Cornelius L. Tracy, Troy; Charles H. Russell, New-York; Richard M. Blatchford, New-York; Hamilton White, Syracuse; Henry H. Martin, Albany.

For Inspectors of Election, George Dexter of Albany, Rufus G. Beardslee of New-York, and Stephen Groves of Albany, were chosen. The meeting was very largely attended. The annual report of the Directors shows the earnings of the road for the month of November to have been \$51,129 84, being an increase of \$20,383 93 over the same month last year, and the largest earnings of the company in any one month. The surplus of income amount on the 30th of September, 1861, was \$2,466,852 45, invested in improvements and supplies.

The annual report of the Committee of Stockholders, appointed to examine into the accounts and transactions of the Company, says the books and accounts of the Company are in good order, the system well devised, and they show that the statements in the reports of the Company are correct.

On the question of reappointing a Stockholders' Examining Committee coming up in the meeting, it was resolved, after a debate, not to again appoint such a Committee, the special circumstances that gave origin to it having passed away. At a subsequent meeting of the Board, the following appointments were made: President, Erasmus Corning; Vice-President, Dean Richmond; Executive Committee, Messrs. Corning, Richmond, Chedell, Paige, and Martin; Committee on Accounts, Messrs. Spraker, Tracy, and Blatchford.

## Movements of Lt.-Gov. Campbell.

ATLANTA, Wednesday, Dec. 11, 1861. Lieut.-Gov. Campbell arrived in town to-day, and has taken rooms at Congress Hall for himself and family for the winter.

## THE WAR FOR THE UNION.

## THE ARMY MAKING ITSELF COMFORTABLE.

## THE CASE OF COLONEL KERRIGAN.

## Great Strength of the Rebel Army.

## VIGILANCE OF OUR ARMY.

## AN ATTACK EXPECTED.

## THE NEW MILITARY ACADEMY BILL.

## THE EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS.

## THE REPUBLICAN CONGRESSIONAL CAUCUS.

Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune. WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Dec. 11, 1861.

## THE ARMY MAKING ITSELF COMFORTABLE.

A careful observer attached to Gen. Franklin's division says that the army appears to him to be going into Winter quarters. Whether they have received any further orders than to make themselves comfortable, he cannot state, but certain it is that the officers are buying large quantities of lumber, and are erecting permanent and comfortable huts for themselves, and stables for their horses. The men are constantly employed in cutting logs in the woods to build cabins. In the cavalry regiments the soldiers are detailed daily to cut logs and haul them, and in making stables. The Orange and Alexandria Railroad that runs through the ravine separating the hills on which are encamped Gens. Heintzelman and Franklin's divisions, is constantly used for lumber trains. Hundreds of thousands of feet of lumber have been already transported thither for the use of these divisions, and the hills are fast being covered with a crop of huts and cabins, sprung up like mushrooms. The soldiers have almost ceased to hope for an immediate engagement, and seem to have resigned themselves to comparative inaction till Spring.

## THE KERRIGAN CASE.

Beverly Johnson appeared as counsel in the Kerrigan case to-day. Gen. Martindale testified to the charge of the Colonel's refusal to attend the examination of the officers of his regiment. A lengthy examination of the General and subsequently of Major Savage, elicited the fact, that Kerrigan, when positively ordered to return to the tent where the General was examining the officers, refused, declaring that he was not going to be examined publicly. The Court adjourned at this stage for want of material witnesses.

## ILLNESS OF SENATOR WILMOT.

Senator David Wilmot went home to-day very ill. His friends apprehend that his disease is cancer in the stomach.

## EXECUTION FOR DEFECTION.

It is probable that the first military execution for desertion will take place speedily. Private Johnson, who deserted from Company D, Lincoln Cavalry, is now on trial. The proofs against him are conclusive. He was endeavoring not merely to get away from our army, but to go over to the rebels. It is understood that an example will be made of him. The trial will probably be concluded to-morrow.

## GREAT STRENGTH OF THE REBEL ARMY.

Information received by the Government confirms our chief officers in their opinion that the rebel army outnumbers ours. Their forces along the line of the Ocoquan has been especially increased by 75,000 fresh men just brought up from the South. This is certainly suggestive.

## FALSE ALARM.

Last evening the pickets of the 6th Wisconsin Regiment, near Brush's farm, were alarmed by one of the Garibaldi Guard, who came suddenly upon them. He was immediately fired at. The report being heard by the rest of the pickets, an indiscriminate firing followed. The report spread that the enemy was advancing, and the brigades of Generals Wadsworth, King and others, were immediately marched out. The alarm was false.

## EXPECTED ATTACK.

Last night the troops along the center of our lines slept on their arms. A dispatch from Gen. McClellan informed them an attack by the enemy was probable.

To-day at noon several regiments were ordered to be ready for an emergency, and were drawn up in line, but afterward dismissed. To-night our troops are again on the alert, sleeping on their arms. Down below last night four brigades, commanded by Gens. Heintzelman and Sumner, reconnoitered—the former to Ocoquan, and the latter to within three miles of Fairfax Court-House on the Annapolis Road—but found no enemy.

## THE MILITARY ACADEMY BILL.

The Military Academy bill, introduced by Senator Wilson to-day, provides for the appointment of two Cadets from each Congressional District instead of one. This will make the whole number over 350, if the loyal districts avail themselves of the bill.

## THE EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS.

Although no formal arrangements for the exchange of prisoners have been entertained, each party is acting as though they were in operation. At first 58 of our men were released, in return for whom 58 rebels, mostly from here, were sent South. Lieut. Kurtz then appeared, in exchange for whom a rebel officer of equal rank, was set free. Secretary Welles next released three prisoners taken by the Navy, and the rebels sent back three of our officers. Finally, Gen. McClellan made an order freeing 250 prisoners. In response to the first installment of these, 37 in number, 37 of our men have arrived. If the whole number come, there need be no trouble hereafter, except in special cases. It is understood that the Government is willing to release any pris-